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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/812,234	03/29/2004	Nobuyo Sakai	501606.108029	2318

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EXAMINER

BARRETT, SUZANNE LALE DINO

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3676

DATE MAILED: 08/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it should be in one paragraph form. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. Claims 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 3, the following lack proper antecedent: in line 3, "said tailpiece"; line 4, "cables drawn out". In claim 4, line 2, the following lacks proper antecedent basis: "either one of the associated locking parts". Note that claim 5 is included herein merely because of its dependency.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 3,5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Imedio Ocana 2001/0005998. Imedio Ocana teaches an electric cylinder casing 41,42 for

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actuating a door lock comprising a motor 51 having a shaft member 30 which engages a rotary dish plate 28 having a tailpiece 26 associated therewith and projections 281 which engage with recesses 233 on a clutch member disc 23,27 to actuate a bolt member. The lock casing further provides a stationary can in the circular opening shown in element 41 of Figure 2.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Imedio Ocana '998. While Imedio Ocana fails to teach an inclined angle on the rotary plate and clutch disc elements to provide a ratchet means, Official Notice is taken that it is well known in the clutch art to provide a ratchet means for engaging members to allow for a free-wheeling if desired. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to provide the clutch and dish plate members of Imedio Ocana with inclined angle surfaces to provide a well known ratchet means as desired.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed 6/8/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. As set forth above, the rejections in view of Imedio-Ocana still stand. It is

further noted that several issues remain under 35 USC 112 as reiterated above.

Applicant's argument that the reference teaches the motor being disposed perpendicular to the operating members, and not linearly, is moot since the claims do not recite that the motor is linearly disposed (see claim 3, lines 6-7 which does not list the motor as one of the elements being linearly disposed). Accordingly, claims 3-5 stand rejected.

Conclusion

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Suzanne Dino Barrett whose telephone number is 571-272-7053. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 8:30-7:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Glessner can be reached on 571-272-6843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Suzanne Dino Barrett
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3676

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